(b) and (c) The technology has been transferred to M/s AIMIL, Pharmaceutical Pvt. Ltd. The company is in the process of setting up its production line. At present medicine is being made available to patients by DARL Pithoragarh.

Defence deal by M/s Denel

1781. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since examined the news reports appearing the South African newspapers relating to the payment of commission by Denel to British Company Varas Associates for procuring confidential documents for a sale of Anti-Material Rifle to India;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) whether temporary freeze on the above deal has since been lifted and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Based on the information furnished by M/s Denel, South Africa, there is *prima facie* evidence of violation of clauses relating to use of undue influence and agents/agency commission, as contained in the contracts of Anti Material Rifles (AMRs) signed in 2002. A decision has been taken to initiate action to cancel all contracts entered into with M/s Denel. The contract signed on 7-3-2005 for procurement of 400 AMR has been cancelled. The matter was referred to the CBI for investigation. An FIR has also been filed by the CBI in the matter, *inter-alia,* against unknown public servants.

Lifting of ban by Switzerland on export of military material

1782. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Switzerland lifted ban on the export of military material to India which was imposed in 1998 following Pokhran tests;